

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASWAN 00292 231118Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 231030Z MAR 75 ZFF-6

FM USDEL ASWAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 233

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USDEL ASWAN 0292

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSTFGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS

REF: SECTO 484 (JERUSALEM 658)

1. IN FAHMY'S ABSENCE, I CONVEYED TO SIRRI THIS MORNING MESSAGE CONTAINED REFTEL. I TOLD HIM IT REPRESENTS WHAT WE ARE SAYING AT THE HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF VARIOUS MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES, UN AND ROME. I ALSO TOLD HIM OF YOUR SPECIAL MESSAGE TO KUWAIT. SIRRI, AFTER READING THE MESSAGE, THOUGHT IT SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO SEND TO FAHMY RIGHT AWAY.

2. BECAUSE THE AIRPORT IN CAIRO IS CLOSED DUE TO A SANDSTORM, THE PRESIDENT'S AIRCRAFT DID NOT TAKE OFF AT 1100 THIS MORNING AS SCHEDULED. THE PRESIDENT, FAHMY AND OTHERS ARE AT THE REST HOUSE WAITING TO SEE IF CAIRO CONDITIONS CLEAR UP LATER IN THE DAY IN WHICH CASE THEY WILL EMPLANE AS SOON AS THEY CAN. IF CONDITIONS DO NOT CHANGE IN CAIRO, THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT OVERNIGHTING HERE.

3. ALL OF THIS MEANS, OF COURSE, THAT SENATOR MCGOVERN'S MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT IS NOW TOTALLY UP IN THE AIR.
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PAGE 02 ASWAN 00292 231118Z

IF THE PRESIDENT GETS BACK TODAY, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE

TO RESCHEDULE SUCH A MEETING. IF NOT, AND SINCE THE
SENATOR IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE CAIRO TOMORROW, HE WILL
HAVE TO FOREGO MEETING.

4. MY OWN TRAVEL PLANS BACK TO CAIRO ARE ALSO CURRENTLY
IN SUSPENSE BECAUSE OF WEATHER CONDITIONS AND THE FACT
THAT THIS MORNING'S EGYPTAIR FLIGHTS HAVE EITHER NOT
TAKEN OFF FROM ASWAN OR ARE BEING HELD IN LUXOR
AND NO ONE IS SURE WHEN THIS AFTERNOON'S FLIGHT WILL ARRIVE.
I SHALL CONTINUE TO TRY TO GET BACK TO CAIRO TO BRIEF THE
SENATOR.
EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ASWAN00292
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750101-0727
From: ASWAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750324/aaaaavox.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 SECTO 484, 75 (JERUSALEM 65
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006